

ONE MAN'S OPINIONS

BY N. D. COCHRAN.

Rotten Politics.—No reason has been given for the requested resignation of U. S. District Attorney Wilkerson at this critical time and the appointment of a fellow named Clyne.

No public complaint had been made of Wilkerson's conduct as a public servant. There was no demand from the people for a change. Not even the rank and file Democrats were bothering their heads about it.

But Wilkerson happens to be a Republican, and a Democrat wanted his job. The Democratic party is in power, and we happen to have a Democratic senator from Illinois who takes a keen interest in loaves and fishes.

That's about all there is to it. It would be the same if Wilkerson happened to be a Democrat and we had a Republican administration.

I don't know whether the FOOD HOGS are back of the sudden demand for a change or not.

I do know, however, that to the general public it makes no difference whether a public official is one thing or the other politically if he attends to his business.

"To Him Who Hath."—I can begin to see the meaning of "Ask and ye shall receive" and "To him who hath shall be given."

A committee of prominent bankers appeared before the Board of Review and asked that bank taxes be reduced because of the uncertainty of foreign collections, or something of the kind.

And the amiable members of the political Board of Review generously struck over \$21,000,000 from the assessment against the banks, thereby making the banks a present of something like a half million dollars.

Supposedly the banks were assessed according to law. If they were the Board of Review had no right to re-

duce that assessment. So much money will have to be raised by taxation. If \$500,000 is taken off what the banks would have to pay, it will have to be paid by somebody else.

That means it will be taken off the backs of the strong and piled upon the backs of the weak.

There is little danger of the banks losing money on account of the war. They play a cinch game in both war and peace. Anybody that gets any money from a bank must either put up A1 collateral or stand in with the bank.

When they do take risks there is no reason why they should be permitted to dump that risk onto other taxpayers.

There is as much sense in the Board of Review giving the banks that half million as there would be in the board of county commissioners making an appropriation for that amount and handing the cash over to the banks as a Christmas present.

Open Gambling in Chicago.—I invite Mayor Harrison's attention to the fact that one big gambling joint in Chicago is running wide open—the most dangerous gambling joint in town.

In this joint prominent millionaire gamblers are publicly and brazenly gambling daily. They are not gambling with poker chips. They are not playing bank or the roulette wheel. They are not shooting craps or betting on the ponies.

They are gambling with wheat, corn and other foodstuffs, and their gambling affects the daily life of millions of people.

Their gambling is making the people of this country pay war prices for food in spite of the fact that we have record-breaking crops.

I refer to the Chicago Board of Trade.

Why not back a few patrol wagons up to that big gambling joint and pull it, just as you would a poker or crap joint—only a little more so?